THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B. C. KHANDURI) : (a) The number of proposals received from Tamil Nadu from January 2001 are as under:

(i)	Construction of new National Highways/converting State Roads into National Highways	: 6
(ii)	Widening the Existing National Highways	: 10
(iii)	Construction of by-pass	: Nil
(iv)	Reconstruction of bridges on National Highways	: 13

(b) Allocation of funds for the development of National Highways is made State wise and not Project/National Highway wise. Allocation made for National Highway Plan works (Original) for 2001-02 for Tamil Nadu is Rs.95.00 crore.

(c) and (d) : (i) The proposal for declaration of new National Highways will be considered along with similar other proposals received from State Governments after finalization of the Tenth Five Year Plan keeping in view the traffic needs, inter-se priority and availability of funds

(ii) Out of the 23 proposals received as mentioned in Para (a) :(ii)&(iv) above, 7 projects have been sanctioned. These are in various stages of progress and targeted for completion by March 2003. 12 proposals were found to be deficient and returned to State PWD for modification. The balance 4 proposals are under examination.

Purchase of vehicles for Enforcement of Traffic Rules in Tripura

2720. SHRI KHAGEN DAS : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Tripura has submitted a proposal for financial assistance for purchase of five vehicles for enforcement of Traffic Rules and Road Safety Measures under National Highway Patrolling Scheme;

(b) if so, by when the fund would be released; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B. C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Tripura was sanctioned a sum of Rs.25.00 lakhs during 1997-98 for procurement of one 16 tonnes crane and one ambulance under National Highway Patrolling Scheme. During 2000-2001, an ambulance was given to State Road Transport Undertaking, Tripura. The Ministry is receiving requests from

States/ UTs for financial assistance under the scheme. Due to limited availability of funds, it has not been possible to meet full requirement of any State/ UT.

Installation of electronic Weighbridge at Churaibari Checkpost, Tripura

2721. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Tripura has sent a proposal for installation of electronic weighbridge at Churaibari checkpost under the National Highways Development Scheme;

(b) whether Government have approved the proposal; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no scheme for supply of Electronic Weighbridges. However, two numbers of Portable Weigh Bridges are being provided to Tripura Government during the current financial year.

Breach of Parts of NH-52 by Floods

2722. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of NH-52 breached or washed away by flood, year-wise since 1996 till date; and

(b) the details of the repair and improvement works undertaken and the details of the projects for prevention of such breach in the future, indicating year-wise amount sanctioned and released, target set and progress made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B. C. KHANDURI) : (a) The total length of NH-52 breached by flood since 1996 - 97 till date is given below:—

1996-97	240 m.
1997-98	50 m.
1998-99	676 m.
1999-2000	165 m.
2000-2001	721 m.